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AUTHORITY

OAG, D/A LTR, 29 APR 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (23 Jul 68) FOR OT RD 682325

6 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st  
Battalion, 63d Armor, Period Ending 30 April 1968

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*DA, office of Asst Chief  
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2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

*Kenneth G. Wickham*

KENNETH G. WICKHAM  
Major General, USA  
The Adjutant General

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OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310

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Operational Report- Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 63d Armor

4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations. 1 Feb - 30 Apr 1968

5. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name)

CO, 1st Battalion, 63d Armor

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OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310

13. ABSTRACT

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION 63D ARMOR  
Fort Riley, Kansas 66442

6 May 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned RCS CSFOR-65

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D. C. 20310

## SECTION I: SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATION OR UNIT ACTIVITIES

### 1. References:

a. AR 1-19

b. DA Message 805034 from ACSFOR, dated 10 March 1967

2. Reporting Period: This is the fourteenth report and covers the period 1 April to 30 April 1968.

3. Personnel: During the months of June and July this unit will lose approximately 117 personnel through ETS's. The following will be the critical MOS shortages:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SHORTAGE</u>
05B20	Radio Op	3
05C20	Radio TT Op	2
05C40	RATT Team Chief	1
11C10	Driver/Ammo Bearer/Asst Gnr	11
11C20	Mort Gnr/Dvr/Inst Op/FC Dvr	5
11C40	Fire Dir Computer	1
11D10	Trk Dvr/Rad Tel Op/Scout Obs	11
11D20	Sr Radar Op	5

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned RCS CSFOR-65 (Cont)

<u>MOS</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SHORTAGE</u>
11E10	Armor Crmn	45
26C20	Ground Surv Radar Rpmn	1
31B20	Sr Radio Mech	1
31B20	Radio Mech	3
44C20	Welder	1
52A10	Powerman	2
52B20	Power Plant Op	3
64B20	Trk Dvr	17
71B20	Clerk Typist	1
71H20	Company Clerk	3
71H40	Personnel Sergeant	1
71T20	Maint Data Sp	3
76P20	Repair Parts Sp	3
91B20	Med Sp	12
91B20	Co Med Aidman	3
91B30	Med Aidman	2
91B40	Evac Sec Sgt	1
91C20	Clinical Sp	2

4. Operations and Training: During the month of April the battalion did not conduct any significant tactical training with the M551 because of the following commitments:

a. Conducted the 5th Army Rifle and Pistol Matches 15 April thru 26 April.

b. Was on alert for civil disturbance commitment from 10 April thru 12 April. During this period the battalion had to reorganize into the configuration of an Infantry battalion.



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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned RCS CSFOR-65 (Cont)

- c. Continued to support the arrival of the 24th Infantry Division.
- d. Conducted individual weapons qualification with the sub machine gun and M14.
- e. Continued to support TECOM test in Panama with an officer and tank crew. An additional tank crew has been alerted and is expected to depart for Panama this week.
- f. The battalion plans to conduct platoon and company ATT's in May.

### 5. Maintenance

a. Reference: Operational Report-Lessons Learned RCS CSFOR-65 dated 5 Mar 68 para 5b. Authorization to stock PLL for the Shillelagh missile system continues to be a problem due to the fact that the change to TM9-2350-230-25P/2 which contains the official PLL list has not been published. This unit needs to stock the following items: (per company)

<u>FSN</u>	<u>NOUN</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
1430-921-6445	Tracker	1
1430-921-6447	Transmitter	1
1430-947-6953	Rate Sensor	1
1430-949-5489	SDC	1
1430-999-2781	Power Supply	1
6240-155-7836	Lamp, incandescent	4
5306-930-2442	Bolt, blind	1

Recommend that higher headquarters provide this unit with the authority to stock the above PLL items.

b. Frequency control selector C2742 has been installed in all command vehicles of one company by authority received from Vehicle Installation Branch, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Requisition for additional C2742 has been initiated. EIR number 025850 dated 22 April 1968 has been submitted recommending that all M551's with VRC/12 radio have the frequency control selector installed by the manufacturer. Inclosures 1 and 2 show the location of the C2742 and locally fabricated mount bracket.

### SECTION II: RECOMMENDATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

This unit has been informed that it will conduct the troop test for

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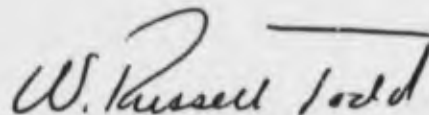
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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned RCS CSFOR-65 (Cont)

the Tank Battalion Light (Combined Arms 70). Preliminary tests will start 1 July with actual test beginning in September. Personnel for SCUBA training have been selected and are presently undergoing an intensified physical training program. They will report to the San Diego Naval Base for formal SCUBA training on 20 May 1968. SCUBA equipment which was requested on 22 May 1967 has arrived less the significant items listed below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Hoods	5
Wet Suits	5
Depth Gauge	5
Watches	5

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as



W RUSSELL TODD  
LTC, Armor  
Commanding

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- 1 CG US Army Tank Automotive Command, ATTN: AMCPM-SH-D
- 1 CG USACDC, Ft Belvoir, ATTN: Weapons Div. Material Directorate
- 1 CG Army Test and Evaluation Command, ATTN: Chief Armor Directorate
  
- 1 CO Support Command, 1st Armored Div.
- 1 CO 3rd Squadron, 1st Cav., 1st Armored Div.
- 1 CO 6th Armored Cav. Regt., Ft Mead, Md.
- 1 CO 1st Bn 17th Cav., 82nd Airborne Div.
- 1 CO 4th Bn 69th Armor, Ft Benning, Ga.
- 1 CO 4th Bn 68th Armor, Ft Knox, Ky
- 1 CO 4th Squadron 9th Cav., Ft Campbell, Ky.
- 1 CO 172nd Inf Bde., APO Seattle 98749
- 1 CO USACDC Armor Agency, Ft Knox, Ky.
- 2 Commandant US Army Armor School, ATTN: Directorate of Inst.
- 1 Commandant USA Military Academy, ATTN: Senior Armor Inst. Tactics Dept.
- 1 Sheridan Project Manager, Rock Island Arsenal

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ALRGT-P (6 May 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

DA HEADQUARTERS FORT RILEY, Fort Riley, Kansas 66442 17 May 1968

TO: Commanding General, Fifth United States Army, ATTN: ALFGC-TN  
Fort Sheridan, Illinois 60037

This headquarters concurs in the comments and recommendations of the basic communication with the following exceptions and additions:

a. Personnel (Paragraph 3, Section I, basic communication). There are 284 projected gains for this unit prior to the end of September 1968. As these personnel arrive on station, critical MOS shortages will be alleviated.

b. Operations and training (Paragraph 4f, Section I, basic communication). Tentative plans are to conduct platoon and company ATT's in May and June respectively.

c. Maintenance (Paragraph 5a, Section I, basic communication). Request for authority to store the high dollar value items in the unit PLL is contrary to current DA policy and no justification for a change to this policy is made. As the present support capability appears adequate, it is recommended that request be disapproved.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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ALFGC-TN (6 May 68) 2d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

Headquarters Fifth United States Army, Fort Sheridan, IL 60037

TO: 7 JUN 1968  
Commanding General, United States Continental Army  
Command, Fort Monroe, Va 23351

This headquarters concurs in the comments and recommendations provided by the unit commander and the installation commander with the following exceptions and additions:

a. Personnel.

(1) Reference 1st indorsement, paragraph a. Projected personnel gains noted in the Fort Riley indorsement are actually the total number requisitioned. Validated personnel fill for the 1/63d Armor through July is 41 EM. Fort Riley should continue to screen all available surplus and incoming personnel for possible assignment to the unit.

(2) The necessity for timely requisitioning of known losses has been impressed upon 1/63d Armor.

b. Operations. No additional comments.

c. Training and Organization. No additional comments.

d. Logistics.

(1) Reference section 1, paragraph 5a. The official PLL authorized for troop and company level as shown in TM 9-2350-230-25P/2, page 94, dated 1966 contains all of the items listed in paragraph 5a, section 1.

(2) Reference section 1, paragraph 5a. The pending change to TM 9-2350-230-25P/2 will increase the quantity authorized in the PLL based on the number of Shillelagh systems.

(3) Recommend that the items on the PLL be placed in stock at troop or company level for the following reasons: (a) The troop or company has the capability (through the use of test set, Gm Remote Control Components) of determining the unserviceable item and is authorized to replace it. (b) Stockage of the PLL at troop or company level will reduce the out-of-

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ALFGC-TN

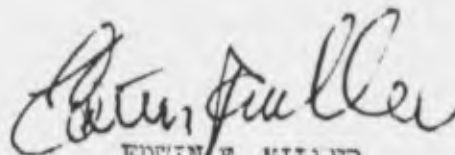
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, RCS, CSFOR-65 (U)

action time. (c) Based on the usage of these items, the failure data can be computed and the PLL adjusted.

e. Concur with section 1, paragraph 5b. Recommend that the Vehicle Installation Branch, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, initiate action to have the frequency control selector, C2742 installed in all M-551 tanks.

f. The Combat Development Command (CDC) is responsible for the test indicated in Section II. The installation supply at Fort Riley is conducting follow-up on the equipment shortages listed in Section II as requested by 1/63d Armor and CDC. This headquarters is providing assistance and follow-up action as required.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
EDWIN F. MILLER  
MAJ, AGC  
Asst Adjutant General

Copy furnished:  
CG Ft Riley, Ks

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ATOPS-MGT(6 May 68) 3d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, RCS CSFOR-65 (U)

Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe,  
Virginia 23351 5 JUL 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

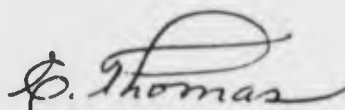
This Headquarters agrees with the observations and recommendations as  
indorsed with the following additional comments concerning authorized PLL:

a. Shillelagh Missile System Logistical Support Plan (U), Feb 67,  
indicates that guidance set "spare assemblies will be stocked at organiza-  
tional level." Further, the concept of maintenance for Shillelagh requires  
that guidance set assemblies be available at organizational level. The  
first five items listed in para 5a, basic report, are guidance set components.

b. There appears to be some question concerning the repair parts TM  
which would authorize repair parts for the Shillelagh system. Reference  
para a above indicates TM 9-2350-230-25P/2 (Sheridan TM) contains Shillelagh  
repair parts. TM 9-1400-465-15P is the proper organizational repair parts  
manual for Shillelagh Missile System peculiar parts. TM 9-2350-230-25P/2  
(Sheridan TM) contains non-missile system parts (e.g., automotive). However,  
both TMs are to be used where appropriate in maintaining the system.

c. The position expressed in paragraph d(3), 2d Indorsement conforms  
to the provisions of Section VI, AR 735-35.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
E. THOMAS  
LTC, AGC  
Asst AG

Cy furn:  
CG, 5th USA

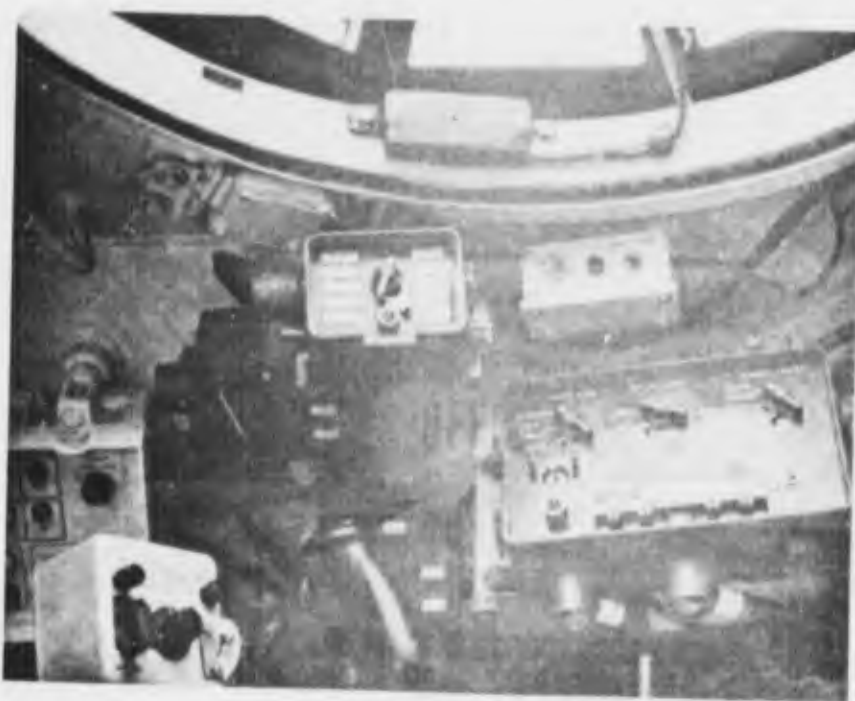


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MOUNT BRACKET



C2742 (Frequency Control Selector) MOUNTED IN M551

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BRACKET MOUNTED IN M551



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C2742 BEING USED BY TANK COMMANDER

Incl 2

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